Fellowship

PEACE INFORMATION EDITION

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SOUTH SIT-INS CONTINUE; F.O.R. STAFF, VOLUNTEERS ACTIVE

By last month, "sit-in" demonstrations against jim crow in lunch counters had assumed the proportions of front-page news. In Orangeburg, South Carolina, 350 Negro students were imprisoned in a stockade after police firehoses and tear gas failed to break up a protest march of nearly 1000. In Nashville, Tennessee, a white youth who dared to join the sit-in was taunted and beaten up as a "nigger lover," but, like his Negro brothers, refused to respond with violence.

These are only two of numerous incidents that supersede one another daily. Throughout the South, Negro students are taking up the standard of nonviolent struggle for equality, and white students on Northern campuses are joining in sympathy demonstrations. FOR member Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is giving active support to the new struggle through the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which he is president. Nor have other FOR people been idle.

FOR Southern Secretary James Lawson, expelled from the Vanderbilt University School of Religion for his leadership in the Nashville demonstrations, so far has declined offers from at least six other seminaries to enroll him immediately, in favor of continuing his active leadership in the mushrooming movement.

National Field Secretary Glenn Smiley and Regional Secretary Charles Walker have joined Lawson in the South to help organize training sessions for leaders of the nonviolent movement. Another FOR member, the Rev. Douglas Moore of Durham, N. C., has joined the staff for volunteer work in that state, Moore, a Negro has played a leading role in the North Carolina demonstrations, which at this writing are going on in twenty communities. Other FOR volunteers are being sent to as many as twelve other North Carolina communities to help out.

The FOR has joined three other groups in sponsoring a workshop on nonviolence at Shaw University, in Raleigh, N. C., April 15-17, for student leaders of the nonviolent movement across the South. James Lawson will be dean and keynote speaker of the conference, which will be co-sponsored by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Congress of Racial Equality, and the Southern Region of the American Friends Service Committee.

Meanwhile protests continued to pour in to Vanderbilt's Chancellor Harvie Branscomb over Lawson's expulsion. Formal resolutions deploring the action were sent by students of Yale Divinity School, Union Seminary and Southern California School of Theology, and there were reports that faculty members of Vanderbilt University, in addition to those of the School of Religion, have proffered their resignations if Lawson is not reinstated.

"Write a Letter..."

Letters in support of insisting on a test-ban agreement at Geneva are of urgent importance now when the Geneva conference is in a "crucial stage." This is the burden of the newest bulletin produced by the jointly sponsored Program for Disarmament, titled "Write a Letter to the President." Copies are available free on request. Write to Program for Disarmament, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

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Frat Group "Explains" Student Peace Union

Under a heading of "Something to Watch," the March 1 Bulletin of the Interfraternity Research and Advisory Council, provides another classic example of the technique of defamation by insinuation that has become so popular in this country. The Bulletin is edited by Dean Fred H. Turner of the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois.

The Student Peace Union is a development of the past two years on midwest college and university campuses. Though it has been largely organized by FOR and AFSC members, it does not require of its adherents commitment to the full pacifist position. Rather it seeks to stimulate student thinking, from the premise that war has become intolerable, on alternative methods of reconciliation and nonviolence.

The IRAC publication begins with a more-or-less straight reporting job of the growth of what it calls the American Student Peace Union, lifted from something called "Freedom's Facts." The SPU's Statement of Purpose, however, it quotes from a news story in *The Worker*, official U. S. Communist Party newspaper, a "smear" technique not original with IRAC.

This is followed by the disingenuous disclaimer that "Aside from the fact that a report of the SPU appeared in *The Worker*, there is no evidence here that SPU is in any way connected with the current world-wide Communist peace drive."

Any reassurance this might have provided IRAC's apprehensive readers is immediately dispelled by a quotation from an Indian Communist revealing that it is the comrades' tactics these days to encourage "independent" youth groups rather than Party-affiliated ones. Presumably this is based on the conviction that the independent ones can be infiltrated and manipulated without the disadvantages of hostility and suspicion aroused by overt Party connections.

This climax is then re-capped with the irrelevant reminder that the ubiquitous Mr. J. Edgar Hoover had revealed to a Senate committee a few years ago the "despicable and dangerous" intention of the Communists to attract to their "positive program" youth who might otherwise turn delinquent.

IRAC missed only one thing. Note the similarity between the initials of the Student Peace Union (SPU) and those of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). There must be something suspicious about that!

LAST CALL

Got Your Tickets Yet?

Don't Miss the FOR's Big Birthday Party

A. J. MUSTE -- 75 Years Old

John Nevin SAYRE -- 75 Years Old

Fellowship of Reconciliation
45 Years Old

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25 Years Old

Riverside Church, New York

Thursday, April 21

6:30 p.m.

Tickets -- $5.

Write now--today--space is limited

FOR, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

NEWS from the peace front

Another "drill" has been arranged Civil Defense for May 3, when citi-ns will be expected to take shelter om a H-bomb attack that would pre-mably atomize both them and the elters. Several communities are ex-cted to see pacifists again refusing take shelter as a witness to their ncern that effort be expended on acemaking efforts rather than war eparations. A group of mothers with ung children are reported preparing take such action in New York City, parently without any organizational onsorship.

The Fellowship has a new small aflet on the press, expected to be ady by April 10. It will be entitled: How to Prepare Your Fallout Shelter-- Supplement to the Sane Man's Guide Civil Defense." Copies will be ailable at 50¢ per 100 from FOR, ox 271, Nyack, N. Y.

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A nonviolent demonstration at the ilitary atomic center of Bruyères-le-hatel, France, was carried out last onth by the newly formed French Di-ct Action Committee Against Atomic rmament. About 150 people carrying nners calling for an end to A-bomb sting, gathered at the Bruyères rail-ay station and marched silently to e atomic center two miles away. The ocession was led by IFOR member astor Andre Trocmé, president of the ench Federation Against Atomic rmament.

The Committee is planning similar monstrations for the months ahead.

* * *

Permissible Strontium-90 intake for mans over a life-time has been lower-l almost half it was announced in bruary, as a result of a study under-ken by the International Committee Radiation. Accordingly, thirty-three dioactive units rather than the pre-ous eighty will be the basis for fu-re computation on safe radiation vels in milk, foods and air.

A recent Consumers Union study of the Strontium-90 present in milk samples from 27 cities revealed an average of 8.8 units.

* * *

A pledge "never to participate in any effort to develop germ warfare, for such participation would constitute a crime against mankind," is being circulated among biologists at universities and research centers across the country. In New York, where the petition began, 50 faculty members and graduate students at Columbia University and 15 at the Rockefeller Institute signed in the first week.

* * *

Negro "sit-in" demonstrators journeyed in a cavalcade of 300 cars from Petersburg, Virginia, to Richmond last month, where they made an appeal from conviction for violating the Petersburg Public Library segregation policy. The procession also protested new local "trespass" penalties in a public place amounting to a year in jail and $1000 fine.

* * *

At this time when the new anti-discrimination movement is rapidly growing in the South, you will want to read and help distribute the FOR comic book, "Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story." New low price: 5¢ a copy. 20% discount on quantities of 100 or over. Order from: Fellowship Publications, Box 271, Nyack, N. Y.

CORRECTION

In the lead article of the Mar. 15, 1960 Peace Information Edition it was stated that "The Vanderbilt School of Religion is a Methodist seminary." This is not correct. It is an independent school, and its Board of Trustees is an autonomous body.

We regret the error.

FOR Members Among Air Force Manual Targets

The Air Force, usually considered one of the stronger elements of American society, found itself uncomfortably caught last week between the country's major religious groups' indignation over its publication of a manual charging that they are infiltrated by communism, and the fury of the House Un-American Activities' Committee over its withdrawal of the manual.

Sources of the charges were, as usual, the small group of dissident clergymen and fringe preachers who have kept up a continuing running fire against all forms of liberalism and pacifism. Not unexpectedly, three of the principal targets were FOR members: Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president of the National Council of Churches; Dr. Walter Russell Bowie, Episcopal clergyman and former dean of students at Union Theological Seminary; and Prof. Henry J. Cadbury, chairman of the American Friends Service Committee and former professor at Harvard.

The quick apologies of the Departments of the Air Force and Defense aroused the ire of the Un-American Activities Committee, which summoned Air Force Secretary Dudley C. Sharp to a hearing at which Chairman Francis Walter (D., Pa.) and other committee members repeatedly asserted the truth of the manual's charges and berated Sharp for his "apology."

The National Council of Churches has produced a bulky mimeographed-offset summary of the case, includin reproductions of letters and telegran of support from major religious bodie and editorials from principal new papers. A briefer mimeographed summa prepared by Co-Secretary John Swomle is available on request from FOR.

Muste on Trial For Tax Refusal

Charges of "negligence and fraud were made against A. J. Muste, FO Secretary Emeritus, last month becaus of his refusal to pay Federal incom taxes for the years 1948-52. At a hea ing in the United States Tax Court New York on Mar. 16, Muste declare that "on grounds of Christian teachin conviction and conscience" he cou not help pay for the development more nuclear arms or hydrogen bomb "I felt that I would be committin treason against my own country, Chris and my religious principles if I ha paid taxes," he stated.

Muste, who refused to file incom tax returns, instead wrote letters t the Internal Revenue Bureau for a num ber of years stating his views at length He once sent a copy of the Gospel and Henry D. Thoreau's "Essay o Civil Disobedience." His lawyer i the case is Prof. Harrop Freeman Cornell University Law School, als an FOR member.

The judge has given lawyers unt May 16 to file further arguments an until June 15 to reply.

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